

Official Rules

Maryland Traveling Trowel

“Spreading the Cement of Brotherly Love and Affection”

- 1. Notice of Intent-** As a courtesy to the Master, he must be informed of the intention of the visiting lodge attempting to obtain the Traveling Trowel. At least two (2) days' notice prior to the visit is required.
Capture of the Traveling Trowel may be made only during Stated Communications or Special Communications, excluding installation of Officers.
- 2. Current Dues Cards -** Each visiting member must show his current dues card to the Worshipful Master or his designee of the host lodge.
- 3. Display of Trowel -** The Traveling Trowel has to be placed in clear view of all visiting Brothers along with a copy of these rules.
- 4. Minimum Visitors -** A minimum of four (4) members from the visiting lodge must be present in order to obtain the gavel. Required are the Worshipful Master and one of the remaining two principal officers, (Senior Warden or Junior Warden), plus at least two other members of that visiting lodge (all with dues cards).
- 5. Winner-** Should four (4) or more members from two (2) different visiting lodges attend another lodge's meeting (and be in possession of their dues cards), the lodge with the highest number of visiting members "captures" the Trowel.
- 6. Tie -** in case of a tie, the lodge that traveled the farthest will receive the Trowel (as determined in mileage by GPS, Map Quest or Waze applications). If a tie still exists then the Lodge with the highest total number of Years of Service of those members attending (Masonic Service) will be declared the winner.
- 7, Capture -** If these requirements are met, the lodge in possession of the Traveling Trowel "loses" it to the visiting lodge, who will take it back to their lodge.
- 8. Notification and Tracking -** Any lodge newly acquiring the Traveling Gavel must notify the Administrator of the recently won acquisition within Three (3) days.
Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of the Trowel.
Notifications by lodges can be made by phone call (person to person), or email Prince Frederick Lodge No. 142. You may email the Lodge at princefredericklodge142@gmail.com or call William Hines, PM Secretary at 301-758-5221
- 9. Time of Possession -** The months of July and August will not be counted toward time of possession. The lodge in possession of the trowel just prior to the Annual Communication must "surrender" the trowel to Prince Frederick Lodge No. 142 at the Annual Communication or prior to the Annual Communication. This may be done by any one or more members of the lodge.
- 10. Award -** Every November the lodge with the previous year/s longest possession accumulatively - will be awarded special recognition by Prince Frederick Lodge.
- 11. Advertise –** The Traveling Trowel promotes visitations between Lodges. Please use social media to advertise that you have the Traveling Trowel to promote visitation to your Lodge when in possession of the Traveling Trowel